

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Public Body Procurement Workgroup

Meeting # 5

Monday, September 19, 2022, 9:30 a.m.
Conference Rooms C, D, and E
James Monroe Building
101 N 14th St, Richmond, Virginia 23219

<http://dgs.virginia.gov/dgs/directors-office/procurement-workgroup/>

The Public Body Procurement Workgroup (the Workgroup) met in-person in conference rooms C, D, and E in the James Monroe Building in Richmond, Virginia, with Sandra Gill, Deputy Director of the Department of General Services (DGS), presiding. The meeting began with remarks from Ms. Gill, followed by presentations, discussion, and public comment. Materials presented at the meeting are available through the [Workgroup's website](#).

Workgroup members and representatives present at the meeting included Sandra Gill (Department of General Services), Matthew James (Department of Small Business and Supplier Diversity), Joshua Heslinga (Virginia Information Technologies Agency), Lisa Pride (Virginia Department of Transportation), Jason Saunders (Department of Planning and Budget), , John McHugh (Virginia Association of State Colleges and University Purchasing Professionals), Leslie Haley (Office of the Attorney General), Andrea Peeks, (House Appropriations Committee), Adam Rosatelli (Senate Finance and Appropriations Committee) and Joanne Frye (Division of Legislative Services). Elizabeth Dooley with the Virginia Association of Governmental Procurement was absent.

I. Call to Order; Remarks by Chair

Sandra Gill, Deputy Director
Department of General Services

Ms. Gill called the meeting to order and informed the Workgroup that today it will receive public comment and finalize its recommendations on SB 575 and SB 550. She noted that the draft language of the final recommendations for SB 575 and SB 550 was shared with the Workgroup and members of the public for their review in advance of today's meeting. She requested that stakeholders who have already provided public comment to the Workgroup at previous meetings limit their comments to any new information that they wish to share with the Workgroup.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes from the August 31, 2022 Workgroup Meeting

Mr. Heslinga made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the August 11, 2022 meeting of the Workgroup. The motion was seconded by Mr. James and unanimously approved by the Workgroup.

III. Public Comment on Draft Recommendations for SB 575

Ms. Gill invited stakeholders to provide public comment on the draft recommendations for SB 575. There was no public comment.

IV. Finalize Recommendations on SB 575

Draft of Final Recommendation for SB 575

The Workgroup finds that it is not appropriate at this time to require DGS and all other state agencies to use a TCO calculator for medium-duty and heavy-duty vehicles, but the Workgroup recommends that the General Assembly consider directing VDOT, DRPT, and other state agencies to (i) investigate and determine the appropriate factors that need to be included in a TCO calculator for medium-duty and heavy-duty vehicles and (ii) determine when it may be appropriate to implement a requirement that state agencies use a TCO calculator for medium-duty and heavy-duty vehicles.

Next, Ms. Gill asked the Workgroup for their comments on the draft version of the Workgroup's final recommendation for SB 575. Mr. McHugh asked whether the Workgroup had intended to use the term "TCO calculations" instead of "TCO calculator" in the final recommendation. Mr. Heslinga noted that SB 575 uses the term "calculator." Ms. Gill echoed Mr. Heslinga's comment and stated that for consistency she recommends sticking with the term "calculator" in the final recommendation. The rest of the Workgroup members indicated their agreement with Ms. Gill's recommendation. Mr. McHugh then also indicated his agreement. There was no further discussion on the draft version of the final recommendation for SB 575.

Mr. Heslinga then made a motion for the Workgroup approve the final recommendation on SB 575. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pride. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0-1.¹

V. Public Comment on Draft Recommendations for SB 550

Ms. Gill then invited stakeholders to provide public comment on the draft recommendations for SB 550. There was no public comment.

¹ Yes: Mr. McHugh, Ms. Pride, Mr. James, Ms. Gill, and Mr. Heslinga. Abstain: Mr. Saunders.

VI. Finalize Recommendations on SB 550

Draft of Final Recommendations for SB 550

I. AMENDMENTS PERTAINING TO ALL OF SB 550

Recommendation #1:

The Workgroup recommends that the General Assembly consider making the definitions of “construction/construction contract,” “contractor/general contractor,” and “subcontractor” that are applicable to SB 550’s payment liability and timing provisions pertaining to public contracts in § 2.2-4354 and to SB 550’s payment liability and timing provisions pertaining to private contracts in § 11-4.6 uniform.

Recommendation #2:

The Workgroup recommends that the General Assembly consider clarifying whether contracts for professional services, including architectural or professional engineering services, should be included within the scope of SB 550’s payment liability and timing provisions.

Recommendation #3:

The Workgroup recommends that the General Assembly consider making the following language in SB 550 uniform in order to enhance the clarity and consistency of the bill:

Lines 12-13: Such contractor shall not be liable for amounts otherwise reducible due to the subcontractor's noncompliance with the terms of the contract.

Lines 57-58: An owner shall not be required to pay amounts invoiced that are subject to withholding pursuant to the contract for the general contractor's noncompliance with the terms of the contract.

Lines 72-73: Such contractors shall not be liable for amounts otherwise reducible pursuant to a breach of contract by the subcontractor.

Recommendation #4:

The Workgroup recommends that the General Assembly consider making the following language in SB 550 uniform where appropriate and intended in order to enhance the clarity and consistency of the bill:

Lines 14-16: However, in the event that the contractor withholds all or a part of the amount promised to the subcontractor under the contract, the

contractor shall notify the subcontractor, in writing, of his intention to withhold all or a part of the subcontractor's payment with the reason for nonpayment.

Lines 59-62: However, in the event that an owner withholds all or a part of the amount invoiced by the general contractor under the terms of the contract, the owner shall notify the general contractor, in writing and with reasonable specificity, of his intention to withhold all or part of the general contractor's payment with the reason for nonpayment.

Lines 74-78: However, in the event that a contractor withholds all or a part of the amount invoiced by any lower-tier subcontractor under the contract, the contractor shall notify the subcontractor, in writing, of his intention to withhold all or a part of the subcontractor's payment with the reason for nonpayment, specifically identifying the contractual noncompliance, the dollar amount being withheld, and the lower-tier subcontractor responsible for the contractual noncompliance.

Recommendation #5:

The Workgroup recommends that the General Assembly consider establishing a timeline for when the notice of withholding payment must be given.

II. AMENDMENTS PERTAINING TO § 2.2-4354 – PUBLIC CONTRACTS

Recommendation #6:

The Workgroup recommends that the General Assembly consider reconciling the provisions added by SB 550 in subdivision 1 of § 2.2-4354 with the existing provisions of the Prompt Payment Act that were moved to subsection 2 of § 2.2-4354 and, in doing so, consider clarifying (i) the type of contracts to which each subdivision applies, (ii) how the “entire amount owed” language in subdivision 1 is intended to interact with the “proportionate share” language in subdivision 2, (iii) that the “entire amount owed” language in subdivision 1 is not intended to affect the VPPA’s retainage provisions, and (iv) when a general contractor must pay a subcontractor when the general contractor has not been paid by the public body.

III. AMENDMENTS PERTAINING TO § 11-4.6 – PRIVATE CONTRACTS

Recommendation #7:

The Workgroup recommends that the General Assembly consider updating the catchline of § 11-4.6 to reflect both the provisions of § 11-4.6 that existed prior to the amendments made by SB 550 and that are still in effect (dealing with the liability of a

contractor for the wages of a subcontractor's employees) and the new provisions added by SB 550 (dealing with payment liability and timing between private owners, general contractors, and subcontractors).

Recommendation #8:

The Workgroup recommends that the General Assembly consider amending the subsection and subdivision lettering in § 11-4.6 to separate out the provisions of § 11-4.6 dealing with the liability of a contractor for the wages of a subcontractor's employees from the new provisions added by SB 550 dealing with owners' and general contractors' payment liability and timing in order to make § 11-4.6 easier to interpret.

Recommendation #9:

The Workgroup recommends that the General Assembly consider clarifying that the provisions of subsection C of § 11-4.6 applies only to construction contracts.

Recommendation #10:

The Workgroup recommends that the General Assembly consider (i) reconciling the inconsistency between the timelines for payment that are set out on lines 55-57 in subsection B of § 11-4.6 for owners and on lines 69-70 in subsection C of § 11-4.6 for general contractors and (ii) reconciling such inconsistency by using the "receipt of invoice" language used on lines 55-57 in subsection B as the trigger for payment in both subsections.

Recommendation #11:

The Workgroup recommends that the General Assembly consider clarifying the inconsistent and confusing terminology used in subsection C of § 11-4.6 by amending it (i) to use only the terms "general contractor" and "subcontractor" (similar to § 2.2-4354 in the VPPA dealing with public contracts) and (ii) by inserting the following language from § 2.2-4354 in the VPPA that would make the provisions of subsection C apply throughout all of the tiers: Any such contract awarded shall further require the contractor to include in each of its subcontracts a provision requiring each subcontractor to include or otherwise be subject to the same payment and interest requirements with respect to each lower-tier subcontractor.

Next, Ms. Gill asked the Workgroup for their comments on the draft versions of the Workgroup's final recommendations for SB 555. There was no discussion by the Workgroup.

Mr. Heslinga then made a motion for the Workgroup approve all of the final recommendations on SB 550. The motion was seconded by Ms. James. The motion carried by a vote of 5-0-1.²

² Yes: Mr. McHugh, Ms. Pride, Mr. James, Ms. Gill, and Mr. Heslinga. Abstain: Mr. Saunders.

VII. Introduction of Study of SB 272 – Review and recommend policies related to the climate impact of concrete

Ms. Gill shared with the Workgroup that its next study will be of SB 272 from the 2022 Regular Session of the General Assembly. She noted that the bill was introduced by Senator Hashmi. She informed the Workgroup that it will take this bill up for study at a future meeting.

VIII. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

IX. Discussion

There was no further discussion among the Workgroup members.

X. Adjournment

Ms. Gill adjourned the meeting at 9:41 a.m. and noted that the Workgroup's staff will send drafts of the final reports for SB 575 and SB 550 to the Workgroup's members for their review prior to submitting them to the General Assembly by their December 1, 2022 due dates.

For more information, see the [Workgroup's website](#) or contact that Workgroup's staff at pwg@dgs.virginia.gov.

July 12, 2022

Mr. Joe Damico
Director, Dept. of General Services
1100 Bank Street
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Mr. Damico,

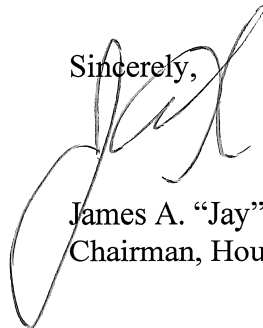
During the 2022 General Assembly Session, Senator Ghazala Hashmi carried Senate Bill 272; *Concrete; DGS shall convene a work group to review climate impact*. On March 3rd, 2022, this was left in Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources Committee.

In advance of the 2023 General Assembly Session, I request that you convene a group of interested parties to study SB 272 and review ways to continue to reduce carbon emissions in concrete and cement, without sacrificing the integrity of the product and cost competitiveness.

I ask that you include as part of this group representatives from the VRMCA to work through concerns and find a possible solution which is necessary to accomplish this work by December 1, 2023.

Thank you for your advocacy work on behalf of the Department of General Services and your willingness to work collaboratively with other stakeholders to find a solution. I have enclosed a copy of this legislation, and I stand by to assist in any way.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jay Leftwich', is written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

James A. "Jay" Leftwich, Jr.
Chairman, House General Laws Committee

2022 SESSION**SB 272 Concrete; DGS shall convene a work group to review climate impact.**

Introduced by: [Ghazala F. Hashmi](#) | [all patrons](#) ... [notes](#) | [add to my profiles](#)

SUMMARY AS PASSED SENATE: (all summaries)

Climate impact of concrete; work group; report. Directs the Department of General Services to convene a stakeholder work group to review the climate impact of concrete and recommend policies and practices to incentivize the reduction of the air emission impact of the production of concrete procured by agencies of the Commonwealth for Commonwealth-funded projects. The work group shall report its findings, including any public comments received, and recommendations no later than November 1, 2023.

FULL TEXT

01/11/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101529D [pdf](#)

01/25/22 Senate: Committee substitute printed 22105171D-S1 [pdf](#) | [impact statement](#)

AMENDMENTS

Senate committee, floor amendments and substitutes offered

HISTORY

01/11/22 Senate: Prefiled and ordered printed; offered 01/12/22 22101529D

01/11/22 Senate: Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

01/25/22 Senate: Reported from Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources with substitute (9-Y 6-N)

01/25/22 Senate: Committee substitute printed 22105171D-S1

01/27/22 Senate: Constitutional reading dispensed (39-Y 0-N)

01/28/22 Senate: Read second time

01/28/22 Senate: Reading of substitute waived

01/28/22 Senate: Committee substitute agreed to 22105171D-S1

01/28/22 Senate: Engrossed by Senate - committee substitute SB272S1

01/31/22 Senate: Read third time and passed Senate (22-Y 18-N)

02/22/22 House: Placed on Calendar

02/22/22 House: Read first time

02/22/22 House: Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

02/25/22 House: Assigned ACNR sub: Chesapeake

02/28/22 House: Subcommittee recommends laying on the table (6-Y 4-N)

03/08/22 House: Left in Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources

22101529D

SENATE BILL NO. 272

Offered January 12, 2022

Prefiled January 11, 2022

A BILL to amend and reenact § 10.1-1186 of the Code of Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding sections numbered 2.2-1135.1 and 33.2-276.1 and by adding in Article 13 of Chapter 3 of Title 58.1 a section numbered 58.1-439.12:13, relating to lower carbon concrete; report.

Patron—Hashmi

Referred to Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 10.1-1186 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding sections numbered 2.2-1135.1 and 33.2-276.1 and by adding in Article 13 of Chapter 3 of Title 58.1 a section numbered 58.1-439.12:13 as follows:

§ 2.2-1135.1. Use of lower carbon concrete.

A. As used in this section:

"Concrete" means structural and nonstructural masonry, precast, and ready-mix concrete building products.

"Concrete global warming potential baseline" or "baseline" means the average global warming potential values for concrete specifications approved for use by the Department and the Department of Transportation in buildings, infrastructure, and roadways owned by the Commonwealth. The baseline shall be determined by the Department of Environmental Quality, in consultation with the Department and the Department of Transportation, pursuant to § 10.1-1186.

"Environmental product declaration" means product specific Type III environmental product declarations that conform to ISO Standard 14025 and enable the numeric GWP and environmental impact comparisons between concrete mixes fulfilling the same functions.

"Global warming potential" or "GWP" means a numeric value included in an environmental product declaration that measures the total contribution to global warming from the emission of greenhouse gases, or the elimination of greenhouse gas sinks, that results from the production or utilization of a specific product or service.

"Lower carbon concrete" means concrete mixes and products that have been verified to result in a global warming potential value that is at least 20 percent lower than the concrete global warming potential baseline.

B. By January 1, 2023, the Department, the Department of Transportation, and the Department of Environmental Quality shall develop and implement performance-based specifications for concrete use in buildings, infrastructure, and roadways owned by the Commonwealth.

C. 1. For any building project initiated by the Department after January 1, 2023, that involves the placement of 50 cubic yards or more of concrete, a concrete material provider shall be eligible for a performance bonus if such provider utilizes a lower carbon concrete.

2. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to a project if the Director, in his sole discretion, determines that (i) it would not be in the public interest, (ii) it would result in unreasonable costs, (iii) such lower carbon concrete cannot be produced or made in sufficient and reasonably available quantities of satisfactory quality, or (iv) it would conflict with compliance with state or federal law. Such determination shall be included in the request for proposal, invitation to bid, or other solicitation for any project for which such determination is made.

D. The Department shall report annually to the Governor and the General Assembly, beginning December 1, 2023, of the lower carbon concrete performance bonus, including a cost-benefit analysis of the use of lower carbon concrete.

§ 10.1-1186. General powers of the Department.

The Department shall have the following general powers, any of which the Director may delegate as appropriate:

1. Employ such personnel as may be required to carry out the duties of the Department;

2. Make and enter into all contracts and agreements necessary or incidental to the performance of its duties and the execution of its powers under this chapter, including, but not limited to, contracts with the United States, other states, other state agencies and governmental subdivisions of the Commonwealth;

3. Accept grants from the United States government and agencies and instrumentalities thereof and any other source. To these ends, the Department shall have the power to comply with such conditions

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59 and execute such agreements as may be necessary, convenient, or desirable;

60 4. Accept and administer services, property, gifts and other funds donated to the Department;

61 5. Implement all regulations as may be adopted by the State Air Pollution Control Board, the State
62 Water Control Board, and the Virginia Waste Management Board;

63 6. Administer, under the direction of the Boards, funds appropriated to it for environmental programs
64 and make contracts related thereto;

65 7. Advise and coordinate the responses of state agencies to notices of proceedings by the State Water
66 Control Board to consider certifications of hydropower projects under 33 U.S.C. § 1341;

67 8. Advise interested agencies of the Commonwealth of pending proceedings when the Department of
68 Environmental Quality intervenes directly on behalf of the Commonwealth in a Federal Energy
69 Regulatory Commission proceeding or when the Department of Wildlife Resources intervenes in a
70 Federal Energy Regulatory Commission proceeding to coordinate the provision of information and
71 testimony for use in the proceedings;

72 9. *Establish, in cooperation with the Department of General Services and the Department of*
73 *Transportation, the concrete global warming potential baseline, as that term is defined in § 33.2-276.1.*
74 *Such baseline shall be established by January 1, 2023, and reestablished every five years thereafter.*

75 10. Notwithstanding any other provision of law and to the extent consistent with federal
76 requirements, following a proceeding as provided in § 2.2-4019, issue special orders to any person to
77 comply with: (i) the provisions of any law administered by the Boards, the Director or the Department,
78 (ii) any condition of a permit or a certification, (iii) any regulations of the Boards, or (iv) any case
79 decision, as defined in § 2.2-4001, of the Boards or Director. The issuance of a special order shall be
80 considered a case decision as defined in § 2.2-4001. The Director shall not delegate his authority to
81 impose civil penalties in conjunction with issuance of special orders. For purposes of this subdivision,
82 "Boards" means the State Air Pollution Control Board, the State Water Control Board, and the Virginia
83 Waste Management Board; and

84 ~~10.~~ 11. Perform all acts necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes of this chapter.

85 **§ 33.2-276.1. Use of lower carbon concrete.**

86 A. As used in this section:

87 "Concrete" means structural and nonstructural masonry, precast, and ready-mix concrete building
88 products.

89 "Concrete global warming potential baseline" or "baseline" means the average global warming
90 potential values for concrete specifications approved for use by the Department of General Services and
91 the Department in buildings, infrastructure, and roadways owned by the Commonwealth. The baseline
92 shall be determined by the Department of Environmental Quality, in consultation with the Department
93 and the Department of General Services, pursuant to § 10.1-1186.

94 "Environmental product declaration" means product specific Type III environmental product
95 declarations that conform to ISO Standard 14025 and enable the numeric GWP and environmental
96 impact comparisons between concrete mixes fulfilling the same functions.

97 "Global warming potential" or "GWP" means a numeric value included in an environmental product
98 declaration that measures the total contribution to global warming from the emission of greenhouse
99 gases, or the elimination of greenhouse gas sinks, that results from the production or utilization of a
100 specific product or service.

101 "Lower carbon concrete" means concrete mixes and products that have been verified to result in a
102 global warming potential value that is at least 20 percent lower than the concrete global warming
103 potential baseline.

104 B. By January 1, 2023, the Department, the Department of General Services, and the Department of
105 Environmental Quality shall develop and implement performance-based specifications for concrete use in
106 buildings, infrastructure, and roadways owned by the Commonwealth.

107 C. 1. For any highway, bridge, or infrastructure project initiated by the Department after January 1,
108 2023, that involves the placement of 50 cubic yards or more of concrete, a concrete material provider
109 shall be eligible for a performance bonus if such provider utilizes a lower carbon concrete that is
110 included on the Department's approved materials list.

111 2. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to a project if the Commissioner, in his sole
112 discretion, determines that (i) it would not be in the public interest, (ii) it would result in unreasonable
113 costs, (iii) such lower carbon concrete cannot be produced or made in sufficient and reasonably
114 available quantities of satisfactory quality, (iv) it would result in the loss or reduction of federal
115 funding, (v) it would limit or jeopardize the ability to obtain federal funding, or (vi) it would conflict
116 with compliance with state or federal law. Such determination shall be included in the request for
117 proposal, invitation to bid, or other solicitation for any project for which such determination is made.

118 D. The Department shall implement an expedited evaluation process for lower carbon concrete,
119 materials, and methods submitted by application from a private entity for inclusion on the Department's
120 approved materials list. Applicants shall be notified of evaluation results no later than six months after

the submission of an application, unless technical constraints make completing of the evaluation in such time frame impractical.

E. The Department shall report annually to the Governor and the General Assembly, beginning December 1, 2023, of the lower carbon concrete performance bonus, including a cost-benefit analysis of the use of lower carbon concrete.

§ 58.1-439.12:13. Environmental product declaration tax credit.

A. For purposes of this section, "environmental product declaration (EPD) technology implementation cost" means the total initial cost incurred by concrete and concrete component producers to analyze, adopt, and implement technologies that enable the subsequent completion of Type III EPDs that conform to ISO Standard 14025 at concrete production facilities and enable the numeric global warming potential and environmental impact comparisons between concrete mixes fulfilling the same functions.

B. 1. For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2022, but before January 1, 2025, a taxpayer that is a producer of concrete, including producers of major concrete components, cement, and aggregate, shall be allowed a nonrefundable credit against the tax imposed pursuant to § 58.1-320 or 58.1-400 for amounts paid in the taxable year for EPD technology implementation costs incurred for an EPD analysis at up to eight concrete, cement, supplementary cementitious materials, or aggregate production facilities owned and operated by the taxpayer in Virginia.

2. For taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2025, but before January 1, 2026, a taxpayer that is a producer of concrete, including producers of major concrete components, cement, and aggregate, shall be allowed a nonrefundable credit against the tax imposed pursuant to § 58.1-320 or 58.1-400 for amounts paid in the taxable year for EPD technology implementation costs incurred for an EPD analysis at a single concrete, cement, supplementary cementitious materials, or aggregate production facility owned and operated by the taxpayer in Virginia.

C. The credit shall equal the lesser of the amount actually paid in the taxable year for such EPD technology implementation costs or \$5,000.

D. The amount of the credit that may be claimed in any single taxable year shall not exceed the total amount of tax imposed by this chapter for that taxable year. If the amount of the credit allowed under this section exceeds the taxpayer's tax liability for the taxable year during which the EPD technology implementation costs were incurred, the amount that exceeds the tax liability may be carried over for credit against the income taxes of the taxpayer in the next five taxable years or until the total amount of the tax credit has been taken, whichever is sooner.

E. The Tax Commissioner shall develop guidelines implementing the provisions of this section. Such guidelines shall be exempt from the provisions of the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.).

2. That the Materials Division of the Department of Transportation shall, by January 1, 2023, complete an evaluation of the durability, strength, and structural performance of portland limestone cement, and such cement shall be included on the list of approved materials if the evaluation finds that inclusion is consistent with the goals of public safety and cost efficiency. For purposes of this enactment, "portland limestone cement" means Type II or Type IT blended hydraulic cement (ASTM C595) that includes up to 15 percent pulverized limestone as a substitute for clinkers.

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SENATE BILL NO. 272**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE**

(Proposed by the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources
on January 25, 2022)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Hashmi)

A BILL to review and recommend policies related to the climate impact of concrete.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. § 1. A. The Department of General Services (DGS) shall convene a stakeholder work group (Work Group) to review the climate impact of concrete and recommend policies and practices to incentivize the reduction of air emission impact of the production of concrete procured by agencies of the Commonwealth for Commonwealth-funded projects.

B. The Work Group shall be selected by the Director of DGS and shall consist of at the following: two licensed professional engineers, two licensed registered architects, one representative of the construction industry, one representative of the concrete producer industry, one representative of the concrete testing and validation industry, one representative of an accredited school of civil engineering, two representatives of environmental non-governmental organizations, one representative of the Department of Transportation, one representative of DGS, and one representative of DEQ.

C. The Work Group shall consult with any relevant associations that set industry standards for the procurement of low carbon concrete and shall consult with affected contractors and subcontractors to consider the air emissions and related impacts, as well as the health and safety impacts, of concrete.

D. The Work Group shall consider:

1. The use of environmental product declarations to measure the climate impact of concrete procured by agencies of the Commonwealth;

2. The use of performance incentives to encourage the adoption of low carbon materials and methods by concrete manufacturers that provide concrete for Commonwealth-funded projects;

3. The establishment of an expedited product evaluation, testing, and approval protocol for low carbon concrete projects; and

4. The implementation of performance-based specification standards for concrete, including requirements that a structural material achieve specified performance based outcomes from the use of the structural material, such as outcomes related to material, strength, durability, permeability, and other attributes related to the function of the building material for the applied uses, as opposed to requiring that a structural material be produced using a specified manufacturing process, design feature, technology, or proportion of materials. The Advisory Group shall examine the use of methods of compliance, including maximum cement content specifications and specifications based on maximum potential for global warming.

E. The Work Group and DGS shall allow for the submission of public comments to the Work Group, and shall report its findings, including any public comments received, and recommendations to the Governor and the Chairmen of the House Committee on Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources and the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Natural Resources no later than November 1, 2023.